Monitoring of subsidised iodised salt

4114. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme for supply of subsidised iodised salt to the people living below poverty line;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether quality of iodised salt produced and supplied in the country is being checked/monitored through designated laboratories; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The National Iodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme envisages control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders like mental and physical retardation, deaf mutism, cretinism, high rates of goiter, abortion, still births etc. and the Government's commitment to overcome the Iodine Deficiency Disorders through supply of iodated salt for direct human consumption.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) The quality of iodised salt is being monitored though collection of salt samples at the production level by the Salt Commissioner, Ministery of Industry and Public Health Laboratories of States/UTs. Iodine Deficiency Disorders monitoring laboratories under National Iodine Deficieney Disorders Control Programme are monitoring quality of iodated salt at consumption level. There are, in all 26 laboratories—9 sanctioned under National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme, 17 Salt Department Laboratories. Besides there are 5 mobile laboratories.